

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 6018

DEPARTMENT FOR SNM AND NEA/PAB

DEA CECI OM AND IGRP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, PK
SUBJECT: POPPY FARMERS

REF: DEA 17062

1. MISSION HAS RESEARCHED ALL AVAILABLE SOURCES AND ONLY DATA AVAILABLE IS IN STILL UNPUBLISHED USAID SPONSORED STUDY OF POPPY CULTIVATION IN SWABI-GADOON AREA OF PAKISTAN. ALTHOUGH SOME OF THE FIGURES ARE OPEN TO QUESTION, WE BELIEVE THE DATA TO BE FAIRLY REPRESENTATIVE.

2. WHILE THERE IS A WIDE RANGE OF PLOT SIZES DEVOTED TO POPPY GROWING (.72 - 2.2 ACRES PER FARMER), THE AVERAGE POPPY PLOT IS 1.14 ACRES. ON THE AVERAGE, 36 PERCENT OF THE MEMBERS OF EACH HOUSEHOLD BELONG TO THE WORKFORCE, 90 PERCENT OF WHICH ARE FARMERS. SINCE THE AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE IS 6.5 MEMBERS, THERE ARE AN AVERAGE OF 2.1 CULTIVATORS PER HOUSEHOLD. THIS EQUATES TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1.85 CULTIVATORS PER ACRE OF .75 CULTIVATORS PER HECTARE.

3. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY THE PERCENTAGE OF THESE WORKERS WHO WORK FULL TIME ON POPPY CULTIVATION SINCE POPPIES ARE A SEASONAL CROP AND THE LAND IS NORMALLY USED FOR A SECOND CROP OTHER THAN POPPIES IN THE SAME YEAR. HOWEVER, THE STUDY INDICATES THAT 85.9 MAN-DAYS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE CULTIVATION, MAINTENANCE,

LANCING AND COLLECTION OF ONE ACRE OF POPPIES. THE MAJORITY OF THE WORK BEFORE LANCING IS DONE BY THE FARMER AND HIS FAMILY, BUT TWO-THIRDS OF THOSE INVOLVED IN THE LANCING AND COLLECTION PHASE ARE HIRED SPECIALISTS. DUE TO THE COMPLEXITY OF THE INCISING AND COLLECTION OPERATIONS, AN AVERAGE OF TWELVE PERSONS ARE USED TO INCISE ONE ACRE OF POPPIES AND ANOTHER SIX PEOPLE TO COLLECT THE OPIUM GUM.

4. PLEASE ADVISE IF ANY FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED.
HUMMEL

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